



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 13, 2000

H.R. 762 **Lupus Research and Care Amendments of 2000**

As passed by the House of Representatives on October 10, 2000

H.R. 762 would require the Director of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMSD) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to expand and intensify research and related activities of the institute regarding lupus. The NIH will spend approximately \$50 million on lupus research this year. The act would require the Director to coordinate activities with similar activities conducted by other national research institutes and agencies of the NIH. The act also would require NIAMSD to conduct or support research to expand the understanding of the causes of lupus, and to increase research into finding a cure for the disease.

H.R. 762 would authorize grants for the establishment, operation, and coordination of delivery of essential services to individuals with lupus and their families. The act also would regulate charges (such as enrollment fees, premiums, deductibles, cost sharing, copayments, coinsurance, or other charges) imposed by grantees on service recipients.

H.R. 762 would authorize the appropriation of such sums as necessary to carry out the act's provisions in fiscal years 2001 through 2003. At this time, CBO cannot estimate how much would be necessary to implement H.R. 762. However, because the act would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

H.R. 762 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. State and local governments, as well as a number of community and nonprofit organizations, would be eligible for grants established by H.R. 762 for the purpose of delivering and enhancing health care and related services for individuals with lupus.

The CBO staff contact is Alexis K. Ahlstrom. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.